THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5933. *Monday, Dec.* 28, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

HORACE WALPOLE'S celebrated romance of "The Castle of Otranto," has furnished this house with a pantomimic subject, of which Mr. W. Bradwell has made the most. Under the title of *The Castle of Otranto; or Harlequin and the Giant Helmet,* was another Christmas box presented to the lovers of fun on Saturday evening, and its reception proved most flattering. We have scarcely observed a Pantomime pass off with so much precision on the first night of its production, and this is a circumstance highly creditable to Mr. W. H. Payne, under whose direction the piece has been produced. The Regions of Romance, a lovely scene, commences the business. The Spirit of Romance, (Miss M. Glover,) bewails the departed taste for the marvellous, and implores the help of the Romances as yet unscathed, to battle with the foe, which is now making a fresh attack on her kingdom, and has selected the Castle of Otranto for a siege. A body of Romances, having at their head the "Seven Champions," come to the assistance of their mistress, and the scene gives place to the fortress destined by the foe for its new assault. The enemy soon arrives in the shape of a representative of poor Jack Reeve, with a train of burlesque followers, including Don Quixote, Tom Thumb, &c. An attack is made on the Castle, and after a fierce combat, Burlesque is declared victor. Then come the leading incidents of the well known romance, Otranto, and after these are most cleverly embodied, the Spirit of Romance looks for a re-investment of her rights, but she is frustrated by the appearance of the Genius of Pantomime, (Miss Marshall,) and the transformations ensue. Lady Isabella becomes Columbine, (Miss Fairbrother,) Theodore, Harlequin, (C. J. Smith,) Hyppolyta, Clown, (Ridgway,) the Marquis de Vicenza, Pantaloon (Morelli,) and his Page, Pantaloon's Tiger, (Master Marshall,) with tights and tops complete. Of the varied "tricks" we may note the following as most worthy of remark: The Temple of the Drama is disclosed in a very lamentable condition, "Music" and "Spectacle" are its main supporters. It is let to Clown and Pantaloon, who turn it into a Promenade Concert Room, suddenly the orchestra vanishes, and the Drama resumes its sway.

The moving Panorama of the Messrs. Grieve is most beautifully painted. The views commence at St. Helena, and we have the departure of Napoleon's ashes, &c., with a view of Longwood, and the adjacent places. Table Bay succeeds these, and we are shewn the English Fleet, under the command of Admiral Elliott, setting

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sail for China; imagining ourselves in company with the expedition, we reach Cochin China, Macao, Wampoa, Cap-Sing-Moon, Canton, &c., and finally arrive at Tchusan, where the British army is in full operation. The concluding view of the Panorama is the Capture of St. Jean d'Acre. This series of scenes is one of the most splendid and effective, perhaps, ever exhibited in a Theatre. The *tableau* which ends the Pantomime is a very brilliant and imposing *coup d'œil*, representing Britannia surrounded by allegories, among which is Neptune in a chariot drawn by marine horses. The applause was enthusiastic.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

Money was repeated here on Saturday night, followed by *The Ladies' Club*, and *Tom Thumb*. The whole of the entertainments were much applauded.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town:—

Monday, stroll to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker Street, Portman Square.—Just added to her unrivalled collection the full length figure of that wonderful violinist Paganini; also splendid figures of Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert in his military costume, the group of John Knox reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

On Tuesday, visit the DIORAMA, Regent's Park, to see the new and splendid view, *The Shrine of the Nativity at Bethlehem*, painted by M. Renoux, from a sketch made on the spot by David Roberts, Esq., A R.A. and the view of *The Coronation of Queen Victoria* in Westminster Abbey, by M. Bouton. This delightful Exhibition is open every day from ten till half-past four.

Wednesday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see a most wonderful exhibition, *The Industrious Fleas*. They dance, ride, drive a four-in-hand, fight, and in fact do everything in first rate style, exciting the admiration of all present. By the bye, this is Signor Bertolotto's exhibition, that he has been exhibiting for the last eight years.

On Thursday go to the Cosmorama Rooms, 209, Regent Street, to view the new and beautiful views now exhibting here; they are of the most interesting description, and deserve the patronage they receive,

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

"Why is one of Perring's Beavers like the Queen's first head dress?"—"Because it is *a Crown* that sits lightly on the head of the wearer—one that will last through tumult and tempest, and though it may *reign* for ever, can never be injured.—Try Perring's Hats not to be equalled for cheapness, lightness, and durability, at 21s. each.—85, Strand.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigar, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare,

Friday, drop into *The Florentine Anatomical Museum*, Margaret Street, Regent Street, to admire the splendid Anatomical Figures of Venus and Adonis, modelled from nature, and as large as life.

Mrs. P. asked me yesterday, "Why is E. C. Pitman's Boot and Shoe *depot*, in New Street, Covent Garden, like Madame's Green Room crowded with females?" "Because its full of *desirable soles!*"—Went there instantly, quite surprised at the excellent and cheap assortment of new Albert and French Patent Dress Boots—quite a curiosity—must be a customer.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Shakspere's

MIDSUMMER Night's Dream.

Theseus, Duke of Athens, Mr COOPER,
Oberon (King of the Fairies) Madame VESTRIS,
Titania (Queen of the Fairies) Mrs W. LACY,

After which, (2nd Time) the Grand, Romantic, Legendary, Burlesque and Comic Christmas Pantomime, entitled The

Castle of Otranto

OR, HARLEQUIN

And the Giant Helmet.

The Music composed and selected by **Mr R. HUGHES.**
The Scenery by the Messrs: GRIEVE.
The Mechanical Changes, by Mr. W. Bradwell Machinery by Mr. H. Sloman.
The Pantomime invented and written by Mr. W. BRADWELL, and Produced under the Direction of Mr. W. H. PAYNE.

THE REGIONS OF ROMANCE.
Spirit of Romance, Miss M. GLOVER,

The CASTLE of OTRANTO

As seen through the medium of Romance
Spirit of Romance.....Mr S. SMITH,
Grand Attack on the Castle—Sally of the Besieged—Terrific Combat.
Flight of Romance and Triumph of Burlesque.
Interior of CASTLE YARD, with the GIANT HELMET.
TABLEAU VIVANT.
Manfred..(Usurping Prince of Otranto)..Mr W.H.PAYNE,
PrincessHippolyta.....(his very ill-used Wife)..Mr T.RIDGWAY
The Lady Isabella..Miss FAIRBROTHER,
Theodore.....(a Peasant).....Mr C. J. SMITH,
Tremblino...MrKERRIDGE, Farfromboldo..MrGOURIET,
The Prophecy.—Vault in the Castle.
The Escape.—Grand Staircase and Gallery, leading to the Great Chamber.
The Ghost—The Castle Gate. *The Gigantic Sabre.*
The Marquis of Vicenza.....Mr MORRELLI,
His Page—Master MARSHALL.
Another View of the Castle Yard and the **GIANT HELMET**
The Denouement. An Unexpected Change in Affairs.
Spirit of Pantomime..MissMARSHALL,
Harlequin..MrC.J.SMITH, Columbine..Miss FAIRBROTHER,
Pantaloon..Mr MORRELLI, Clown..MrT. RIDGWAY,
Tiger to Pantaloon..Master MARSHALL.
Strawberry Hill. *Trafalgar Square, and the National Gallery.*
Opening of the Nelson Monument.
Miniature Model of a Man-of-War's Man, (with a Hornpipe) Miss A. PAYNE.
National Flag Dance, composed by Mr. OSCAR BYRNE.
Furnished Lodgings. *The Temple of the Drama.*
Interior of the Temple. China Warehouse & Grocer's Shop, with Post Office.
Chinese Pas de Trois, Master Payne, Miss Payne, Miss A. Payne.
WAR WITH CHINA.
The subject being started, the **Messrs. Grieve** will have the honor to lay before the Public their Views of the most interesting Disputable Points of

The Eastern Question.

Including a Series of "*Moving* Accidents by Flood and Field," or, Past and *Passing* Events of 1840.

To-morrow, The Merry Wives of Windsor, and the Pantomime.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, a Musical Entertainment, entitled The

Concerts d'Hiver.

Conductor, Mr. ELLIASON,

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

Overture .. Il Barbiere di Siviglia .. Rossini
Valses .. Hymen's Feier-Klange .. Lanner
Cent-Suisse, Quadrille, M.S. .. .. Musard
Solo, Cornet a Piston, Herr KOENIG, Solo, Trombone, Mons. DANTONET.
Medley Scotch Overture .. Guy Mannering.. Bishop
GRAND DUO from GUILLAUME TELL,.. Dove
Vai, ... Rossini
(As Sung by Signori RUBINI & LABLACHE.)
Performed on the Tromboneâlto and Ophicleide, by Herr KOENIG and Mons. PROSPERE.

Haydn's Abschied Sinfonia, or, Farewell Simphony.

In which all the Performers, one by one, leave the Orchestra.

PART II.

First Time in this Country,

The Telegraph, or Musical Gleanings

BEING

A GRAND POT-POURRI. .. Strauss.

Embracing Selections from the Operas of

LA GARZA LADRA	FRA DIAVOLO
ROBERT LE DIABLE	MASANIELLO
L'ELISIR D'AMORE	ZAMPA
GUSTAVUS	NORMA

ALSO

SOLOS ON THE	*DUETS ON THE*
Cornet, Herr Koenig	Cornet & Trombone, Herr Koenig & M. Dantonet,
Clarinett, Mr Lazarus	Two Cornets, Messrs. Koenig and Jarrett.
Oboe, Mons. Barret.	

Trio for the Piccolo, Triangle, Bass Drum, and "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN !"
Solo, Flageolet, Mons. COLLINET. .. Collinet
Valse .... Brandhofen .. Labitzky
Quadrille, .. Angleterre .. Musard
Galop .. Camille .. Trumpet Solo, Herr MULLER. .... .. Musard

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